

JAKUBOWSKI et al.

Application Serial No.: U.S. national based on PCT/IB2003/006011

REMARKS

By this amendment, original claims 1-19, 21-40, which originated in the PCT phase of the application, have been canceled and a single independent claim has been preserved pending the preparation of a further preliminary amendment to harmonize this national phase application consistent with U.S. national practice. The primary reason for this amendment is purely administrative in nature, to eliminate the excess number of claims exceeding the 20 permitted within a basic U.S. national phase entry and to avoid the cost penalty of multiple-dependency which would be incurred if the as-drafted PCT claims were retained in the U.S. national phase. Accordingly this amendment is in no way intended to be a narrowing amendment, nor one intended to overcome prior art, to introduce further limitations, nor for any substantive reason related to patentability whatsoever. It is entirely related to the establishment of a proper accounting and fee basis for the national phase entry of this International application. Indeed, applicants reserve the right to introduce, via subsequent preliminary amendment, formal U.S. claims of broader scope than those now canceled by this amendment.

In conclusion, this amendment is merely an accounting measure, submitted to clarify the basis for future presentation of additional U.S. claims by preliminary amendment, and thus to facilitate the application processing by the USPTO's PCT division.

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Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. No additional fee, other than that previously calculated with papers accompanying this U.S. national phase filing, is believed to be required for submission of this preliminary amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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